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Remarks

Independent claims 1, 16, 31, 50, and 52 were previously presented to include the following limitations:

1. the database query related to information about a telephone number,
2. the database query sent using the telephone number,
3. processing the translated database query by a line information database, and
4. the response used to process a call related to the telephone number.

Support for such limitations can be found at least in paragraph [0029] of the present patent application.

The examiner rejected the above limitations based on Reiman (5,966,431). For brevity, and in order to expedite the prosecution of the present invention, the first two of these limitations are discussed below:

1. The database query related to information about a telephone number. The Examiner stated, "(i.e. called number, Col. 8, lines 1-3).

Col. 8, lines 1-3 discloses, "This TCAP response is then forwarded to STP 11 with the called number in the layer that also contains the calling party addresses in the original query." Applicant believes that the current limitation which includes a database query is not similar to the Reiman reference which describes a TCAP response. A query and a response are not similar. Further, in the Reiman reference, it appears that the called number is sent in the TCAP response to an STP which is unlike the current limitation in which information about a telephone number is sent to a database. An STP and a database are not similar. As such, Applicant respectfully disagrees that Reiman discloses the current limitation.

2. The database query sent using the telephone number. The Examiner stated, "(Col. 8, lines 1-3 and col. 10, lines 50-67).

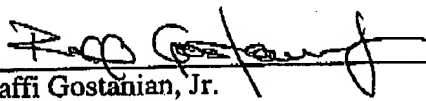
Col. 8, lines 1-3 discloses, "This TCAP response is then forwarded to STP 11 with the called number in the layer that also contains the calling party addresses in the

original query." Applicant believes that the current limitation which includes a database query is not similar to the Reiman reference which describes a TCAP response. A query and a response are not similar. Further, Reiman does not describe sending a database query using the telephone number. Rather, Reiman states that a telephone number is in a TCAP layer. These are not similar statements.

Col. 10, lines 50-67 discloses, "...the call is routed to the service provider's alternate automatic billing system (AABS) to obtain the calling card number (CCN) and the associated Personal Identification Number (PIN)..." As can be seen, Reiman does not describe sending a database query using the telephone number. Rather, Reiman states that a billing system obtains a calling card number. These are not similar statements. Further, Reiman describes obtaining a calling card number and not a telephone number. During the time of Reiman's invention, calling card numbers were typically 12-16 digits long and were used, with a PIN, to place a phone call. A telephone number and a calling card number are not similar. As such, Applicant respectfully disagrees that Reiman discloses the current limitation.

Per the information above, Applicant believes Independent claims 1, 16, 31, 50, and 52, and the claims that depend from them, are in condition for allowance and respectfully request they be passed to allowance. If the Examiner has any other matters which pertain to this Application, the Examiner is encouraged to contact the undersigned to resolve these matters by Examiner's Amendment where possible.

Respectfully Submitted,


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